

PATENT

Atty. Docket No.: ROC920030142US1 (IBM/254)

Confirmation No. 8980

**CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence for Application No. 10/687,286 is being electronically transmitted to Technology Center 2167, via EFS-WEB, on July 19, 2006.

/Scott A. Stinebruner/  
Scott A. Stinebruner, Reg. No. 38,323

July 19, 2006  
Date

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Robert Joseph Bestgen et al. Art Unit: 2167  
Application No.: 10/687,286 Examiner: Cheryl Renea Lewis  
Filed: October 16, 2003  
For: OUTER AND EXCEPTION JOIN TO INNER JOIN  
NORMALIZATION

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**AMENDMENT AFTER NON-FINAL REJECTION**

Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated April 21, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.